

[SENATE BILL. No. 14.]

SENATE, MAY 10, 1864.—Read first and second times, and ordered to be placed upon the calendar and printed.

[By Mr. BROWN from the Committee on Naval Affairs.]

A BILL

To amend An Act entitled “An Act to provide an Invalid Corps,”
approved 17th February, 1864.

1 *The Congress of the Confederate States of America do enact, That*
2 the act entitled “An act to provide an Invalid Corps,” approved
3 February seventeen, eighteen hundred and sixty-four, be extended
4 to; and held to embrace, the ordinary seamen, landsmen and
5 boys of the navy, and the non-commissioned officers, musicians,
6 and privates of the marine corps; and that assignments to duty
7 of all officers, men and boys of the navy and of the marine corps,
8 under the fourth section of the said act shall be made by the
9 Secretary of the Navy.

ADJUTANT AND INSPECTOR GENERAL'S OFFICE, }
Richmond, March 16, 1864. }

GENERAL ORDERS, }
No. 34. }

1. The following act of Congress and orders are published for the information of the army:

An Act to provide an Invalid Corps.

"The Congress of the Confederate States of America do enact, That all officers, non-commissioned officers, musicians, privates and seamen, who have or shall become disabled by wounds or other injuries received, or disease contracted in the service of the Confederate States, and in the line of duty, shall be retired or discharged from their respective positions, as hereinafter provided. But the rank, pay and emoluments of such officers, and the pay and emoluments of such non-commissioned officers, musicians, privates and seamen shall continue to the end of the war, or as long as they shall continue so retired or discharged.

SEC. 2. That all persons claiming the benefits of this act shall present themselves for examination to one of the medical examining boards now established by law. Upon the certificate of such board that such permanent disability exists, such persons shall be retired or discharged as aforesaid.

SEC. 3. That all persons retired or discharged as aforesaid, shall periodically, and at least once in six months, present themselves to one of said boards for further examination, under regulations to be prescribed by the Secretary of War; the result of which examination shall be reported by such board to the said Secretary. And if any such person shall fail so to report himself to such board, whenever he shall be required so to do, he shall be dropped from said retired or discharged list, and become liable to conscription, under the terms of the law, unless such failure shall be caused by physical disability.

SEC. 4. That the Secretary of War may assign such officers, and order the detail of such non-commissioned officers, musicians, privates and seamen for such duty as they shall be qualified to perform. If any such non-commissioned officers, musicians, privates and seamen shall be relieved from disability, they shall be restored to duty in their respective commands.

SEC. 5. That the Secretary of War shall make all needful rules and regulations for the action of the medical boards as aforesaid.

SEC. 6. That vacancies caused by the retirement of officers under this act, shall be filled as in case of the death or resignation of such officers.

SEC. 7. This act shall be in force from its passage.

Approved February 17, 1864."

II. Applications will be made by officers and soldiers who wish to be retired or discharged under this act, through their commanding officers, for authority to appear before one of the medical examining boards now established by law.

Commanding officers will endorse fully the facts connected with the alleged disability, and forward the application to the General commanding, who will return it to the applicant, with his approval, or the reason why it is withheld. The endorsement will be the authority to the board, which will be composed of three medical officers, for the examination of the applicant.

III. If the application be approved by the commanding General, and the board find the soldier permanently disabled by wounds or other injuries received, or disease contracted in the service, it will retire the soldier, and forward to the Adjutant and Inspector General the original application and certificates; or, if the board find a soldier totally unfit for duty in any department of service, he may, if he prefer it, be discharged upon certificates of disability, under the regulations and usages of the service, as before the enactment of the law providing an invalid corps.

If the application be disapproved, the board may nevertheless proceed with the examination. If they find the applicant permanently disabled, from either of the causes stated in the act, they will not retire him, but forward the original application and their certificate to the Surgeon General, for final action at this office.

IV. A corresponding course will be pursued when the applicants are officers, except that the board will not retire, but forward the certificates, through the Surgeon General, to the Adjutant and Inspector General.

V. If the board examining the officer or soldier find him disabled for service in the field, but fit for duty in some department of service, the duty he can best perform will be indicated in the certificate, which will be forwarded to the Adjutant and Inspector General.

VI. Officers recommended under the act to relieve the army of disqualified, disabled or incompetent officers, approved October 13th, 1862, to be retired, because of wounds or other injuries received, or disease contracted in the service, will receive, upon their written application to the Adjutant and Inspector General, authority to appear before one of the medical examining boards for retiring officers and privates, under the act above recited, approved February 17th, 1864.

VII. Officers or soldiers retired under the provisions of this act, will present themselves once in six months to one of the boards of surgeons indicated in paragraph II of these Orders, for further examination; the result of which will be certified as directed in paragraph III of these Orders. If prevented by physical disability from so presenting himself, the cause of such failure will be established by the certificate of a surgeon of the army, or of a citizen physician and the enrolling officer of the district in which the person may at the time be residing. As soon as the physical disability is removed, the officer or soldier will appear before the board for re-examination.

VIII. Failure to appear periodically, as provided by the preceding

paragraph, will be reported by the medical examining board and proper enrolling officer to the Adjutant and Inspector General.

IX. Officers retired under the act of Congress above cited, are entitled to commutation of quarters and fuel only when assigned to duty (as provided in section fourth of said act,) at a station without troops, where public quarters cannot be furnished in kind. They will receive pay from any post quartermaster, upon exhibiting evidence of their retirement from active service, and the certificate of last payment required by paragraph IV, General Orders No. 28, and paragraph 1, General Orders No. 126, (1863.)

X. Soldiers retired from the service, as herein provided, will be furnished with descriptive lists, which, in addition to the usual history given, will exhibit the fact that they have been placed on the retired list, and designate the post at which they will be entitled to receive pay and allowances. They will report to the commandant of such post—which will be nearest their places of residence—and deliver to him their descriptive lists.

XI. Post commanders are required to take possession of descriptive lists of all soldiers reporting to them, and, from the data therein given, at the end of every two months, to prepare muster rolls, upon which these soldiers will receive pay from the post quartermaster or assistant quartermaster. They will append to each roll a certificate that it has been made out in accordance with statements presented in descriptive lists of the soldiers on file in his office.

XII. Officers of the Quartermaster's Department will issue necessary clothing to retired soldiers upon requisitions made by the commandants of the posts at which they are stationed, taking their receipts upon receipt rolls, form No. 53, Regulations for the Quartermaster's Department.

XIII. Retired soldiers will have their rations commuted at \$1 25 per day, to be paid by the commissary at the post designated; under the orders of the commanding officer.

XIV. When the soldier shall be returned to his command, his disability for field service having been removed, the post commander will note upon his descriptive list the dates to which payment may have been made him, on account of pay and rations commuted, and the articles of clothing issued, and return it to him to be delivered to his company commander; or, if he belongs to the non-commissioned staff, to the adjutant of his regiment or battalion.

XV. The following Forms will be observed:

ARMY OF THE CONFEDERATE STATES.

Medical Certificate to Retire Invalid Officer.

(Under Act of Congress approved February 17, 1864.)

_____, of the _____ regiment, _____ brigade, having appeared before the board for examination, we do hereby certify—

[Here state whether the officer is permanently disabled, and cannot perform duty in any branch of the military service, with a full de-

scription of the wound, injury or disease, and the disabling effects, and that it was received or contracted in the service of the Confederate States, in the line of duty. If it is a re-examination, made periodically, state such fact. If the invalid, being disabled for service in the field, is fit for other service, recommend him accordingly. Should an invalid retired overcome the disability, recommend him for such duty as he can perform.]

_____, Surgeon P. A. C. S.,
 _____, Surgeon P. A. C. S.,
 _____, Surgeon P. A. C. S.,
Medical Examining Board.

[PLACE.] Examining Board.

[DATE.]

(Duplicates.)

ARMY OF CONFEDERATE STATES.

Certificate of Disability for Retiring Invalid Soldiers.

(Under act of Congress approved February 17, 1864.)

_____, of Captain _____'s company (—) of the _____ regiment, _____'s brigade, enrolled or enlisted by _____, at _____, on the _____ day of _____, to serve _____. He was born in _____, in the State of _____, is _____ years of age, _____ feet _____ inches high, _____ complexion, _____ eyes, _____ hair, and by occupation, when enlisted, a _____; and having appeared before this board for examination, we do hereby certify—

[Here state whether the soldier is permanently disabled, and cannot perform duty in any branch of the military service, with a full description of the wound, injury or disease, and the disabling effects, and that it was received or contracted in the service of the Confederate States, in the line of duty. If it is a re-examination, made at periods of six months, state such fact. If the invalid, being disabled for duty in the field, is fit for duty in some department of the military service, recommend him accordingly. Should an invalid discharged overcome the disability, recommend him for such duty as he can perform.]

_____, Surgeon P. A. C. S.,
 _____, Surgeon P. A. C. S.,
 _____, Surgeon P. A. C. S.,
Medical Examining Board.

[PLACE.] Examining Board.

[DATE.]

(Duplicates.)

Form for retiring a Soldier.

[Under the act to provide an Invalid Corps, approved Feb. 17, 1864.]

To all whom it may concern :

Know ye, that _____, a _____ of Captain _____ company,

